

Delta Stewardship Council Seeks Public Comment

Input will help shape issues and alternatives examined in the Delta Plan EIR

The Delta Stewardship Council, the state agency charged with developing a long-term management plan for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, is seeking public input and public agency guidance to help shape the Delta Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

The EIR will evaluate the Delta Plan's potential beneficial and adverse impacts, ways to minimize negative effects and potential reasonable alternatives to the Plan.

The Delta Plan will define policies, strategies and actions to guide state and local agencies in planning, programs and projects related to the Delta. The Delta Plan's fundamental purpose is to meet the state-mandated coequal goals of "providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring and enhancing the Delta ecosystem ... in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place." (CA Water Code §85054)

The Council must develop, adopt and begin implementing the Delta Plan by January 1, 2012, as mandated by state law. The Council is moving toward that goal by initiating the environmental review process in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act.

Individuals and public agencies are invited to provide input that helps to identify and define a wide range of potential issues, impacts and strategies for addressing six major problems in the Delta, including:

- Improving water resources
- Restoring the Delta ecosystem
- Protecting and enhancing the Delta as an evolving place
- Improving water quality
- Reducing risks to people, property and state interests
- Establishing governance and financing plans





Statewide Impacts, Broad Scope

The Delta provides water to 25 million Californians—nearly two-thirds of the state's population. As such, the Delta Plan EIR will consider issues and impacts that could affect a broad geographical area of the state, including the legally defined Delta and Suisun Marsh, watersheds that provide water to the Delta (including areas upstream of the Delta and Trinity River watershed), and areas in the Central Valley, Bay Area, Central Coast and Southern California that receive water from the Delta.



The Delta Plan and EIR will be developed concurrently so that the Council can use information from the EIR to develop Delta Plan alternatives and, subsequently, the Delta Plan itself. These documents will build upon decades of federal, state and local studies and reports dealing with water, ecosystem, flood, levee protection and other issues impacting the Delta, as well as recommendations in the 2008 Delta Vision Strategic Plan.



How to Participate

We invite your comments on the Delta Plan and Delta Plan EIR via any of the following;

- Electronically via the Council's Web site at www.deltacouncil.ca.gov or e-mail at deltaplanscoping@deltacouncil.ca.gov
- → By mail: Terry Macaulay | Delta Stewardship Council 980 Ninth Street, Suite 1500 | Sacramento, CA 95814
- In person at any of the following scoping meetings:

Southern California | Tuesday, January 18, 2011, 6:00-8:30 PM South Coast Air Quality Management District | 21865 Copley Dr. | Diamond Bar, CA 91765 Central California | Wednesday, January 19, 2011, 6:00-8:30 PM Merced Civic Center, Sam Pipes Room | 678 West 18th Street | Merced, CA 95340 Bay Area | Thursday, January 20, 2011, 6:00-8:30 PM Concord Senior Center | 2727 Parkside Circle | Concord, CA 94519 State Capitol, Sacramento | Monday, January 24, 2011, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM California Department of Natural Resources Building Auditorium 1416 9th Street | Sacramento, CA 95814 North Delta | Monday, January 24, 2011, 6:30-9:30 PM Clarksburg Middle School Auditorium | 52870 Netherlands Rd. | Clarksburg, CA 95612 South Delta Tuesday, January 25, 2011, 6:00–8:30 PM San Joaquin County Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center 2101 East Earhart Ave. | Stockton, CA 95206 Northern California | Wednesday, January 26, 2011, 6:30-9:00 PM Dorothy F. Johnson Center, Willow Hall | 775 E. 16th Street | Chico, CA 95928

Should the Council complete its full agenda, and no member of the public wishes to provide further comment, the meeting may adjourn early.

Additional Information and Background Documents

Additional information, including the EIR Notice of Preparation, description of EIR topics for evaluation and background about the Delta Stewardship Council, Delta Plan and Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, can be found at www.deltacouncil.ca.gov.

Meetings will include a brief overview of the Delta Plan process followed by public comments related to the EIR. A transcriptionist will record the meeting including public comment. The same project information will be presented at all meetings.

The deadline for submitting written comments is 5 p.m. on January 28, 2011. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the official administrative record and may be made available to the public. A scoping report will be prepared following the scoping process to compile all comments received.

The Draft Delta Plan and Draft EIR will be prepared by June 2011, and the Final Delta Plan and Final EIR will be prepared by December 2011 to comply with state law.



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